

filial affection; and we must resist the attempt of its own citizens to destroy it, with the same feelings that we should avert the dagger of the parricide."

The chapter and work conclude with a quotation from the valedictory address of Washington, urging the preservation and the perpetuation of the Union.

Upon this valedictory address of Washington, it may be remarked, that his arguments for Union are addressed to the reason, the affections, and the interest of all the people. He says: "With slight shades of difference, you have the same religion, manners, habits, and political principles. You have in a common cause fought and triumphed together; the independence and liberty you possess, are the work of joint counsels and joint efforts, of common dangers, sufferings and successes."

"But these considerations, however powerfully they address themselves to your *sensibility*, are greatly outweighed by those which apply more immediately to your interest. Here every portion of our country finds the most commanding motives for carefully guarding and preserving the Union of the whole."

He nowhere suggests that when all these motives fail, an attempt was to be made to preserve the Union by *force of arms*!

The further consideration of the subject was informally postponed.

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS

The PRESIDENT. The Chair will call the attention of the Convention to the fact that we have no Sergeant-at-Arms. The person appointed to that office, left yesterday with members of the Convention, and the Chair has received from him to-day the following telegram: "Imperative business detains me—please excuse—down in the morning." I understand from the Chairman of the Convention, that he has absented himself without leave. He has absented himself on various occasions without leave, and subsequently addressed telegrams to the President to be excused. It is for the Convention to determine what action they will take.

Mr. ABBOTT submitted the following order: *Ordered*, That John T. Wright be appointed temporary Sergeant-at-Arms.

Mr. SCOTT. I will content myself with voting for the order just as it is for the present; but, under other circumstances, I should move to strike out "temporary" and insert "permanent." But I do not see with what consistency members of this Convention can proceed so summarily against a delinquent officer, when so many of its own members take liberties just as unwarranted. Gentlemen come here and vote for two sessions a day, and for any amount of railroad speed; but when we meet here in the afternoon, we find ourselves without a quorum, and without an officer to enforce the rules of the House. It reminds me of the leniency I always felt

towards the little school boys playing truant when bigger ones took the same liberties. Unless we can enforce discipline among ourselves, I am for extending leniency towards delinquent officers. But I believe we ought to enforce discipline in all cases in future; and if the Sergeant-at-Arms or any other officer shall absent himself in future without first obtaining leave, I shall move to displace him and make a permanent appointment in his stead. And I hope the members will feel it incumbent upon them to devote their time and attention more assiduously to their duties. Only this morning a gentleman from Baltimore city objected to limiting the time of debate, because the order did not suit members wishing to go to Baltimore. Is it possible that it is of more importance that members should go to Baltimore every day, is it more important to the people of Maryland, than that they should attend to the business they leave behind? The business of the Convention must stop because a certain number of gentlemen want to go to Baltimore at a particular hour. Can anything be more ridiculous or a greater indignity upon the people who sent us here and upon the Convention itself?

The order was rejected.

Mr. DANIEL submitted the following order: *Ordered*, That any officer of this Convention hereafter absenting himself without leave of the President first had and obtained, except in case of sickness, shall be dismissed his place, and that the President of this Convention shall have the power to appoint a temporary Sergeant-at-Arms for such time as he may deem best.

On motion of Mr. BARRON

The order was laid upon the table—ayes 35; noes 33.

RECESS.

Mr. HENKLE moved to adjourn until tomorrow.

The PRESIDENT ruled the motion out of order, on the ground that the order of the Convention provided for an afternoon session.

Mr. PUGH and Mr. RIDGELY asked and obtained leave of absence.

Mr. BARRON moved to reconsider the vote adopting the order for afternoon sessions.

The motion was seconded.

Mr. HEBB moved to adjourn.

The PRESIDENT. A motion to adjourn takes the Convention over until to-morrow. I understand that there is a standing order of the Convention, that during the debate on the Declaration of Rights there are to be afternoon sessions, commencing at half-past four.

Mr. HEBB. The effect of adjournment will be to take us to half-past four.

Mr. BARRON. I move to reconsider that order. There will be no quorum here.

The PRESIDENT ruled that the motion to adjourn would be to adjourn until half past four, in pursuance of the order.